

ANNOUNCING:

Grants Available to Cities and Counties for Tobacco Cessation Programs

Why cessation programs are needed:

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death and disease in the United States today. Tobacco use increases the risk for lung and other cancers and for cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. The American Cancer Society estimates that cigarette smoking is responsible for one of every five deaths in the United States, or more than 438,000 deaths per year, 874 of them being North Dakotans. Tobacco use is costly to North Dakota. Each year smoking costs the state \$373 million in direct medical expenditures and lost productivity.

According to the 2004 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), North Dakota adult smoking ranks slightly lower than the national rate at 19.8 percent. Of those, 51.6 percent have tried to quit for one day or longer. North Dakota smokeless tobacco rates are above the national average. According to the 2003 BRFSS, 9.6 percent of North Dakota adults use chewing tobacco some days, and 14.0 percent use chewing tobacco everyday.

Availability of funds and requirements:

The North Dakota Department of Health announces the availability of \$195,000 to fund pilot tobacco cessation programs for city and county employees during the 2005-2007 biennium. The 2003 Legislative Assembly lowered the match requirement to three to one, meaning for every three dollars of state money, one dollar in local matching funds is required.

How to apply:

To apply for the funds, communities should submit a plan for a pilot cessation program. The plan should include the following:

1. Name, address and phone number of contact person(s).
2. Time frames for the project.
3. Itemized budget and budget narrative.
4. Estimated number of city and county employees the program will serve.
5. Identification of the source and amount of matching funds.
6. Description of the program.
7. Monitoring and evaluation plan for the pilot program.

For further information about the grants, contact:

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